



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW2202

August 26, 2002

Tobacco Harvest Active

Dry conditions continue in Maryland allowing farmers 6.3 **days suitable for field work** such as harvesting **tobacco**. Most of the crop, 89 percent, is topped, 6 percent ahead of both last year and the five year average. Tobacco is 41 percent harvested, 4 percent less than last year, and one percent ahead of the average. Due to the extremely hot, dry weather, tobacco is rated in mostly fair to poor condition. Tobacco is rated 16 percent good, 39 percent fair, 35 percent poor, and 10 percent very poor.

Vegetable harvest continues at peak levels, with a good supply available. **Cantaloupe** and **watermelon** harvest is two-thirds complete. Eighty-one percent of the cantaloupes are harvested, 6 percent ahead of last year, and 3 percent behind the five year average. Watermelons are 68 percent harvested, 14 percent ahead of last year, and 3 percent behind the average.

Row crops are suffering due to the lack of moisture. Corn harvested for silage has progressed rapidly, 17 percent from the previous week. Significant rain will be too late to benefit corn, but could improve the condition of double cropped soybeans. Soybean conditions are affected by both the hot, dry weather and pests such as spidermites and worms.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 25, 2002 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1997-2001
Harvesting Progress:				
Apples	22	20	19	17
Cantaloupes	81	74	75	84
Corn, for silage	26	9	12	16
Cucumbers	73	68	75	80
Lima beans, for processing only	30	25	59	33
Potatoes	85	62	100	98
Snap beans	72	70	78	74
Sweet Corn	71	65	73	82
Tobacco	41	29	45	40
Tomatoes	68	55	63	75
Watermelons	68	60	54	71
Crop Progress				
Corn, dent	60	46	48	39
Corn, mature	39	16	21	17
Sorghum, headed	88	59	84	90
Soybeans, setting pods	76	62	66	72
Soybeans, turning color	15	10	2	6
Tobacco, topped	89	64	83	83
Hay Harvested:				
Other hay, 3 rd cutting	55	52	57	48
Alfalfa, 3 rd cutting	81	75	90	79
Alfalfa, 4 th cutting	35	6	38	26

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 25, 2002 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	44	29	16	10	1
Sorghum	0	91	7	2	0
Soybeans	41	34	18	7	0
Tobacco	10	35	39	16	0
Range & Pasture	47	35	16	2	0

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